

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative in an interview conducted regarding the present Office Action.

Claims 1-7 and 9-19 are now pending in the application. Claims 8, and 20-30 have been cancelled. Minor amendments have been made to the claims to simply overcome the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112. The amendments to the claims contained herein are of equivalent scope as originally filed and, thus, are not a narrowing amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

During the interview with the Examiner, Applicant's representative indicated that the word "about" would be removed from claims 4, 5, 10, 11, and 14 in order to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner agreed that this proposed amendment would overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 AND 103

During the interview with the Examiner, Applicant's representative proposed to add the limitation to claim 1 of "a light colored pigment intermixed with the encapsulant to thereby create a light colored encapsulant that has a brightness above 75 on a CIE L*A*B color and brightness rating system." The Examiner agreed that this amendment to claim 1, as well as removing the word "about" in claim 14, would

overcome the current rejections in view of the art of record. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (734) 354-5445.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: MAR. 4, 2005

By: 

Ronald W. Wangerow, Reg. No. 29,597

FREUDENBERG-NOK GENERAL PARTNERSHIP
Legal Department
47690 East Anchor Court
Plymouth, MI 48170-2455
Direct Line: (734) 354-5445
Facsimile: (734) 451-1445